

A matrix for washbasins

Components from Alape: a wide-ranging standard modular system

The principle of mass production is present in industries such as fashion. And in 2003, this was used to come up with tailor-made components for bathrooms - first with basins, and a year later with furniture. This holistic components system was put together by sieger design on its own initiative, despite being initially tasked with modifying no more than the rim of the enamel basin - but Alape was instantly impressed.

A maximum number of versions requiring a minimum number of tools - this was a paradox that required a systematic solution. To this day, the scope for production with enamelled steel is limited due to exorbitant tool costs. sieger design accepted the challenge of developing a standard range of washbasins with maximum flexibility and at the lowest possible cost for the manufacturer.

Following in-depth discussions with the Sales, Development and Assembly departments at Alape, the team defined technical specifications and developed a portfolio based on the most common uses and fields of application. The requisite diameters and types could thus be determined to enable the production of a diverse product range that could be expanded in an economical way. The basic forms for the Components were geometric fitted, worktop and bowl-shaped basins. The system continues to be structured according to size and form - cuboids, cylinders and pillars. Size as well as the kind of material used for the baseplates - be it wood, natural stone or glass - can be freely selected, as well as complementary additions such as console drawers, fastening brackets, mirrors and lights.

In 2004, the range of washbasins was expanded to include furniture, which rounded off the system. The accentuated horizontal design runs through all furnishings and lends the pieces a spacious yet lightweight profile. This becomes clear in the long, flat washstands, consoles and shelves, as well as in the details, for example shadow gaps and handle-free solutions. The objects, along with the enamelled steel basins, constitute sophisticated and functional complete solutions that perfectly fit into their surroundings in terms of both dimensions and materials. sieger design has thus been able to create ways of tackling challenging bathrooms and washrooms.

With the Components, sieger design established Alape as a manufacturer of customised bathrooms. The system gives interior architects and end consumers alike a high degree of planning reliability. Being awarded the silver Design Award of the Federal Republic of Germany (Designpreis der Bundesrepublik Deutschland) in 2006 constitutes a high point in terms of the many national and international awards with which it has been honoured, including the iF design award in 2005 and the Good Design Award (Chicago) in 2004.



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